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JASON EDWARD THOMAS CARDIFF

8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

9 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10  
11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

12 Plaintiff,

13 vs.

14 JASON EDWARD THOMAS  
15 CARDIFF,

16 Defendant.

Case No. 5:23-cr-00021-JGB

**DECLARATION OF STEPHEN G.  
LARSON IN SUPPORT OF JASON  
CARDIFF'S *EX PARTE*  
APPLICATION FOR AN ORDER  
TRANSFERRING CASE TO THE  
HONORABLE DOLLY M. GEE**

*[Filed concurrently with Ex Parte  
Application; Request for Judicial  
Notice; and [Proposed] Order]*

**DECLARATION OF STEPHEN G. LARSON**

I, Stephen G. Larson, declare as follows:

1. I am a partner with Larson LLP, attorneys of record for Jason Edward Thomas Cardiff in this matter. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein and, if called as a witness, I could and would testify competently thereto.

2. I make this declaration in support of Mr. Cardiff's *Ex Parte* Application for an Order Transferring Case to the Honorable Dolly M. Gee.

3. On December 14, 2023, I contacted counsel for the government to request the government's position on transferring this matter to Judge Gee.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Valerie Makarewicz advised that the government was still formulating its position.

4. On December 21, 2023, my colleague, Jonathan D. Gershon, called Ms. Makarewicz and left a voicemail informing her of Mr. Cardiff's intention to file an *Ex Parte* Application to Transfer on December 22, 2023 and requesting that she provide an update on the government's position regarding Mr. Cardiff's Application.

5. On December 22, 2023, Mr. Gershon again called Ms. Makarewicz and left a voicemail seeking the government's position. Ms. Makarewicz responded by email that the government opposes Mr. Cardiff's request to transfer this case to the Honorable Dolly M. Gee.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed on this 22nd day of December, 2023, at Los Angeles, California.

/s/ Stephen G. Larson  
Stephen G. Larson